

Claims

1. (original) A portable drive unit (10) for operating a handheld power tool (70) by means of suction and/or blown air, characterized in that it has a housing (11), which is designed as a case (13) that is closable with a lid (24), and that its air feeding power is adapted to the power requirement of the handheld power tool (70), and it serves to store at least one such or similar handheld power tool (70), particularly with its accessories, such as air-carrying tubes and hoses.

2. (original) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by claim 1, characterized in that its housing (11) is designed as a rectangular case, with outward-curved edges, rounded corners, and a flat lid (24) curves inward in dishlike fashion, as well as with a flat underside and top side (15, 25).

3. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by claim 1 or 2, characterized in that its housing (11) comprises a case part (13), open at the top, which is openable and closable at the top by means of a lid (24) that in particular is hinged about a hinge region (26).

4. (original) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by claim 3, characterized in that the lid (24) is formed of two parts (23, 27), of which one flat outer lid shell (23) has a central opening (280), which is spanned by a strutlike bridge (28) and has curved edges and corners, and an inner lid shell (27) engages the opening (280) from below and has a spacing toward the bottom from the strutlike bridge (28).

5. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that a side face (16) of the case (13) has at least one, in particular mushroom-shaped protrusion (38), around which a power cord (42) can be wound and thus retained, and the protrusion (38) forms a parking face on which the drive unit (10) can set down and at the same time forms an impact face, for absorbing unwanted impacts for instance in heavy-duty construction site operation, on a hinge region (26) of the lid (24).

6. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that elements for firmly holding the

handheld power tool (70), in particular elastic elements for firm holding and clamping, preferably in the form of inflatable air cushions, are located in the case (13).

7. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that on one of the two shorter side faces (18, 20) of the case (13), suction and blower openings (32, 33) with means for coupling a suction hose (78) are located, in particular side by side.

8. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the case (13) comprises a case skeleton (22), which forms riblike reinforcing parts.

9. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that recesses (69) on the reinforcing parts are provided, which are closable by means of attachable elastic shells (19, 21) of softer, less-expensive material.

10. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that hand-actuatable parts, such as lid closure buttons and a sealing lid, have a contrasting color compared to the housing (11).

11. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the case (13) has at least one vertical partition, which in the housing (11) forms a storage compartment (63) for the handheld power tool (70).

12. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that characterized in that the two cases (55, 62), located side by side and in particular integrated with the case (13), in particular each having its own lid (48, 61), are closable, preferably in interlocking fashion, receive the motor (105), and act as a dust box.

13. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the two cases a motor case (62)

and a dust box (55) with dust monitoring means.

14. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that located on the inside of the lid (24) are retaining means (94) for receiving the suction hose (78), and these means are locatable in overlocking fashion, spirally, parallel to the lid (24).

15. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that a bypass valve (50) is located on the dust lid (56).

16. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that sealing means are located between the lids (24, 56, 61) and the case (13, 55, 62).

17. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that located in the interior of the drive unit (10), in particular in the storage compartment (63) or in the interior of the lid (24), are lighting means, in particular with LEDs and/or in the form of a fluorescent written marking.

18. (original) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by claim 1, characterized in that hand-actuatable user control elements (30, 31, 34), particularly for opening and closing a lid or for actuating a switch button for turning the drive unit on or off, are located inside the outer contour of the housing (11).

19. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, characterized in that the switch button (34) for turning the drive unit on or off is accessible from outside for foot- or hand-operated control via an opening (29) in the lid (24).

20. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that a blower adapter (83) is located in fixable fashion on the blower opening (33) and is replaceable by a blower grille (46), in particular having a dust filter (44).

21. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that an adapter for the suction hose (78) is provided, with which the hose can be coupled to handheld power tools, such as electric handheld oscillating sanders, with a suction stub of a different diameter from the suction hose (78).

22. (currently amended) The portable drive unit (10) as defined by ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that an intermediate hose coupling (91) is provided, for coupling the suction hose (78) to an extension piece for the suction hose.